Attachment A

Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014-2024 Close Out Report

CITY OF SYDNEY

Cultural Policy and Action Plan

Close out Report

Darug artist, Billy Bain
Creative Live/Work Spaces, William Street, 2023

Close out report
May 2024

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Purpose of the report

Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014-2024

The Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014-2024 (the Policy) has provided the strategic framework for cultural and creative programs, initiatives, and projects across the City of Sydney (the City) over the past ten years. This report is a high-level summary of the investments made and actions delivered and is intended to formally close-out the specific commitments of the Action Plan. It is accompanied by a document outlining the key cultural achievements of the City during the life of the Policy and ongoing programs and initiatives established in response to the Policy.

This report provides a high level update on the work undertaken in response to the 208 Actions in the Policy listed across the six strategic directions.

The attached highlights document provides more insight into the depth and breadth of the strategic initiatives and levers used by the City to support the cultural and creative sector, across the whole of the organisation.

The Policy was a groundbreaking strategy for local government at the time it was published. Since then, Sydney has undergone rapid and significant change, which has had widespread impacts on the cultural and creative sector. The City's research indicates not only a dramatic loss of affordable creative production space, but a decrease in cultural and creative workers across Sydney – at a significantly higher rate than all other capital cities in Australia.

The City's Community Strategic Plan, *Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: Continuing the Vision,* was adopted in 2022 and responds to these pressing contemporary challenges. It reflects how strongly our community values arts and culture and commits to supporting a 'thriving cultural and creative life'. The Community Strategic Plan is the foundation to guide a refreshed cultural strategy that sets a plan to retain, rebuild and reimagine our cultural life and creative sector despite unprecedented global and local pressures currently impacting the sector.

A refreshed Cultural Strategy for the period 2025 – 2035 accompanies this Close Out Report.

The action plan

Strategic context

The City of Sydney's Community Strategic Plan, *Sustainable Sydney 2030*, identified 'a cultural and creative city' as a key strategic direction.

The Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan was adopted in August 2014, building upon many years of actively supporting the cultural and creative life of the city. The policy elevated and articulated the role culture plays in strengthening our city and the value our community places in our cultural and creative life.

Community consultation for *Creative City* included **2,114** submissions and commentaries, hearing from over **1,400** members of the public and **626** artists, creative workers and organisations through 34 forums and 2 city talks.

Our community affirmed the City's existing commitments to major events, local projects and public art programs and praised our efforts to invite people in to experience public spaces, explore laneways, and enjoy small bars and food trucks. The consultation emphasised the importance of providing cultural infrastructure and workspace for artists and nurturing new opportunities so cultural industries can thrive. More vulnerable parts of the sector were exposed, with particular concern for live music and performing arts venues, which led to the development of a standalone Live Music and Performance Action Plan.

The community wanted the city to invest in sharing our city's stories and history, in particular our Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander history, along with the contemporary expression of First Nations living cultures. They wanted us to help increase opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to be able to access and participate in culture, and overwhelmingly, our community wanted more opportunities to actively engage their own creativity through facilities, training and grassroots collaborations.

From this feedback, the City developed six strategic priorities for supporting Sydney's cultural life and creative industries and committed to 208 actions to deliver over ten years.

Investment in culture

Since the launch of the Policy in 2014, the City has spent an estimated **$344,259,779** on culture through its own programs, staff and operations and grants to third parties to deliver cultural outcomes. The investment is roughly **$34 mil** a year on average.

Summary: Creative City Actuals, Operational, and Salary Spend

Year	Salaries	Operations	Actuals
2013/14	12,146,410	17,930,160	30,076,570
2014/15	13,166,117	15,094,186	28,260,304
2015/16	13,536,140	16,344,651	29,880,792
2016/17	13,836,557	14,741,045	28,577,602
2017/18	14,605,579	16,587,148	31,192,728
2018/19	16,035,328	18,762,753	34,798,081
2019/20	16,700,889	14,119.117	30,820,006
2020/21	13,151,792	8,360,034	21,511,826
2021/22	15,198,638	11,810,558	27,009,197
2022/23	17,091,261	16,370,327	33,461,589

Summary: Grants and Sponsorship

| Year	Cultural Pillar Allocation
2016/17	4,637,204
2017/18	4,742,159
2018/19	4,638,826
2019/20	8,209,369
2020/21	5,746,043
2021/22	5,175,183
2022/23	5,522,293

In addition to this, the City has a significant number of cultural assets, with an estimated Insurance Replacement Value of **$116,888,599**. This includes our Civic Collection ($19,329,479), our City Art Public Art Collection ($25,545,245), and City property occupied by cultural activities, such as our libraries and creative spaces ($70,929,662).

Action status

The status of the 208 actions in the action plan are grouped into five categories:

- Completed – actions that have been completed without a plan to repeat.
- Completed (ongoing) – actions that have been implemented and established as an ongoing program.
- Completed (superseded) – actions that have been replaced, included in other actions, or delivered in another way.
- In-progress – actions that have commenced but are not fully delivered.
- Investigated and not implemented – actions that are recommended to be closed out.

In total, 97% of actions are completed, ongoing or in progress.
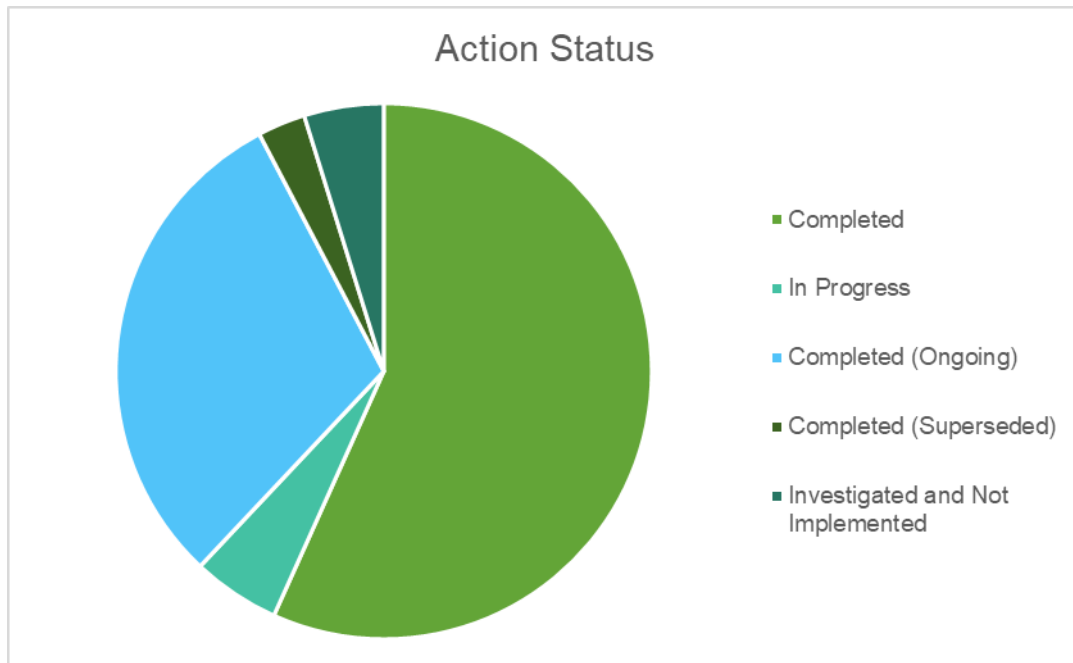
Status	# of actions	% of total
Completed	118	57%
Completed (ongoing)	65	31%
Completed (superseded)	8	4%
In-progress	10	5%
Investigated and not implemented	7	3%
Total	**208**	**100%**

Actions

Action	Action Item	Status	Comment
1.	**Precinct distinctiveness in the public domain**		
1.01	Map neighbourhood cultural activity and infrastructure, and plan for ways to serve neighbourhoods by identifying gaps and promoting current cultural assets.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City worked with Western Sydney University's Institute for Culture and Society to publish 'Mapping Culture Venues and Infrastructure in the City of Sydney'.
1.02	Based on the NYC Urban Canvas project and design competition, provide opportunities for artists and designers to create printed artwork for temporary protective structures and hoardings at construction sites.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Creative Hoardings program showcases original artworks and historic images on temporary protective structures at construction sites. Since 2016, it has supported over 30 artists, with more than 485 hoardings displaying artwork or historic content.
1.03	Initiate creative projects with the business community to support cultural and precinct vitality including extending and promoting the City's short-term creative spaces programs.	Completed (Ongoing)	Business Sector Support Grants, Precinct Activation Grants, and Night-Time Diversification Grants have been made available to help businesses promote creative activities in their properties.
1.04	Increase opportunities for street art and temporary commissioned murals on city walls in partnership with the community and business, and in accord with revisions to the City's Street Art and Aerosol Art Guidelines.	Completed	The City advocated for changes to planning policy to allow street art and murals without needing development (DA) approval, as long as the owner consents, and the building is not heritage listed on in a heritage area. The City created a guide for how to commission or create street art. The City provides ongoing support for local and international artists by commissioning permanent works and temporary installations. The works are featured on the City Art website.
1.05	Develop a strategic partnership with Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, Australia Council, Arts NSW and other NSW councils to enhance multicultural events in Tumbalong Park and other parts of inner-city Sydney.	Completed	In 2014, the City partnered with the Sydney Foreshore Authority to support multicultural events in Tumbalong Park through capacity-building workshops.

1.06	Set priorities within the Cultural Grants Program for creative activity that amplifies each precinct's distinctive histories, stories and contemporary characteristics. Funding will be conditional on evidence of partnerships, for example with businesses or individuals through crowd-sourcing platforms.	Completed	The Creative Grants (previously Cultural Grants) program has and continues to include a priority for projects that reveal the history of the area, tell local stories, and showcase the distinct character of our precincts. The grants also support outdoor activities that bring creativity to the public domain.
1.07	Support village festivals and markets to ensure events include programming and business-mix principles that express the local characteristics of each area and connect with local stakeholders.	Completed	From 2014 – 2022, the City offered Village and Community Festival Grants. To be eligible, applicants needed to demonstrate local partnerships and participation in the event. Celebrating local character was a priority of the funding program. These grants and priorities were rolled into the Festivals and Events grant program in 2022.
1.08	Dedicate specific funding priorities in the Cultural Grants Program for activating the public realm with temporary creative initiatives that contribute to the inner city or village character and support precinct vitality and growth.	Completed	Festival and Events Grants, Cultural Grants (now Creative Grants) and Matching Grants (now Quick Response Grants) support temporary creative initiatives and include a priority to 'activate the public domain'.
1.09	Expand the City's Art & About program to provide public domain activity year-round, in addition to the annual festival, and expand its financial and social impact by partnering with business and local communities. Art & About will continue to prioritise initiatives in which local, national and international artists are engaged to create work for the specific context of each village or city space.	Completed	Art & About is now a year-round program supporting temporary public art and performance installations, complimented by annual events including the Australian Life photography competition and the Little Sydney Lives competition. Each year, the City invests nearly $500,000 in new commissions and has supported 132 projects since it was established in 2002.
1.10	In partnership with relevant stakeholders, the City's history team will develop new programs to integrate the stories from Sydney's past into the public domain of each village through innovative use of the built form, working with historians, artists and digital technologies.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's historians provide content for heritage interpretation signage across the city and villages, especially in parks and community buildings. In partnership with cultural institutions, the city provides content for curated exhibitions and programs, such as '1917 The Great Strike' exhibition with Carriageworks, and 'Letters of Complaint' and 'Liberate!' at Customs House.

1.11	Refresh the website and communication tools for City Art to better promote the City's existing and future public-art projects, and increase public awareness and engagement with these projects (i.e. City Art Walks).	Completed	The City Art website was refreshed in 2014 and features over 200 artworks. The Sydney Culture Walks App was launched in 2015 and includes curated walks and points of interest from the City Art collection. The app has been downloaded more than 88,000 times.
1.12	Extend the Lawn Library initiative (trialled in Hyde Park during the 2014 Sydney Festival) to the City's larger library network by creating a presence in outdoor spaces in village parks and urban squares throughout the year.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Lawn Library was delivered at Paddington Reservoir Gardens in 2014, NAIDOC in the City 2014-2015, Sydney Festival 2014-2016, Sydney Writers Festival 2016-2017, Harold Park Community Centre (Tramsheds) in 2019, Redfern Community Centre in 2020, and Victoria Park for the 2023 Voice Referendum Yes Campaign.
1.13	Develop design principles and guidelines to ensure high-quality event infrastructure for public spaces.	Completed	Standards for the design of event infrastructure are included in the National Construction Code and NSW Planning Policy. The City's Inclusive and Accessible Events Guidelines bring together these standards with guidance on making event infrastructure more inclusive.
1.14	Create information resources for the creative sector about processes to activate public spaces.	Completed	The City has developed guidance for the delivery of sustainable and accessible events, as well as specific guidelines for activating Martin Place, Cathedral Square and Pitt St Mall. City staff provide guidance directly to event producers on the specific considerations applicable to their activities.
1.15	Promote the City's commitment to design excellence to build awareness of creativity in the built form through education and enhanced communication channels.	Completed (Ongoing)	Architecture was added to the Sydney Culture Walks App (88,000+ downloads) including a special Modernist walk from Martin Place to Circular Quay, and a Sculpture walk visiting significant public artworks. Sydney Architecture Walks are a company that offer guided tours of local architectural excellence.
1.16	Develop the City's urban-planning function and capability to consider cultural precincts and infrastructure, and ensure the city is planned to protect and enhance its cultural layer.	Completed	The City's Local Strategic Planning Statement (City Plan 2036) identifies cultural precincts in Oxford St, Kings Cross, Alexandria and Camperdown/Ultimo. Subsequent cultural place strategies have been developed for Oxford Street, Botany Road, and Haymarket. The zoning for Erskineville Town Hall was amended to support performing arts uses and a similar approach is being prepared for other appropriate Town Halls and community properties. The City's late night trading controls were amended in 2021 to support cultural activity across neighbourhood centres, including an additional hour of late trade for eligible cultural venues on high streets. The City continues to advocate for the introduction of Cultural Infrastructure zoning in state planning policy.

1.17	Develop a strategic lighting masterplan that maps the different layers of lighting in the city, including locations for special creative or aesthetic lighting projects, and the criteria for using unique lighting solutions for special places.	Completed	The City has revised its lighting code to include a Creative Lighting Overlay component endorsed by Council in March 2015. A pilot project to light the heritage façade of 343 George Street demonstrated what can be achieved.
1.18	Develop coordinated, strategic placemaking plans for each village that integrate cultural, economic, social and environmental actions.	Completed	The Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) is a requirement for all Councils. It outlines high level planning policy priorities and deliverables to 2036. The City's LSPS includes statements of local character, economic priorities, sustainability standards, opportunities for creative precincts and cultural infrastructure, and outlines community infrastructure and affordable housing needs.
1.19	Support an enabling culture for creative initiatives in the public domain through process improvements, including the development of unified systems for events across all City outdoor spaces.	Completed	The Venues Management team provides a single point of contact and case management for creative initiatives in the public domain across all City-governed outdoor spaces. An event plan template and process guidance is available for applicants who plan to use public space.
1.20	Provide detailed event infrastructure specifications for all future major developments in the city that link to the public realm (such as three-phase power, wi-fi, water, increased acoustic treatments for residential areas close to business and public spaces).	Completed	Public domain plans include these considerations as well as the relevant codes and planning legislation.
1.21	Release updated Guidelines for Public Art in New Developments.	In progress	The City reviewed the Guidelines for Public Art in Private Developments and a further review is in progress. The current Guidelines are published on the City's website.
1.22	Amend the City of Sydney's Hoardings and Scaffolding Policy to facilitate the use of hoardings as a creative canvas in Sydney's public domain.	Completed	The Hoardings and Scaffolding Policy has been amended and building approvals systems and processes have been reviewed to facilitate the Creative Hoardings program, which requires developers to use creative graphics and artwork on hoarding structures.
1.23	Review opportunities to expand locations for the temporary street furniture program (such as deck chairs in Sydney Square), into other city spaces.	Completed	This program was expanded in 2020, deploying an increased stock of street furniture to activate Customs House Square, Loftus Street, Sydney Square and Martin Place. The Al Fresco City project further expanded the Chairs in Squares program in response to Covid 19 social distancing restrictions in 2020/21. Road space reallocated for outdoor dining resulted in a considerable increase in outdoor furniture supplied by operators of cafes, bars and restaurants all across the local area.

1.24	Advocate the development of new, intergovernmental, event-approval systems and procedures between City of Sydney, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, Roads and Maritime Services, and Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing.	Completed	The City of Sydney has advocated for a harmonised approvals process for events, liquor licences and temporary activations across relevant landholders and agencies. This has been proposed to the NSW Government who have responsibility for the relevant legislation and agencies.
1.25	Advocate and support the development of an Art in Transit policy and program with Transport for NSW.	Completed	The City has advocated to Transport for NSW to produce a public art program across the rail network.
1.26	Advocate to the NSW Government for changes to the standard-instrument LEP to allow temporary event use at heritage-listed sites including Martin Place, Hyde Park and Paddington Reservoir Gardens.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has consistently advocated for changes to the LEP and SEPP Codes to allow easy, low-cost approvals paths for small scale and temporary cultural activity. Some of the City's advocacy has been addressed in the NSW Government's "Fun SEPP" and "Vibrancy Reforms" but there is more that can be done to simplify event approvals processes. Advocacy is ongoing.
1.27	Development of local village economies Action Plans.	Completed (Superseded)	This action has been superseded by a legislative requirement to produce a Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) which included character statements for villages and precincts across our area. Our LSPS, titled City Plan 2036, was adopted in 2019.
1.28	Trial reduction of outdoor dining usage fees in the City's precincts to encourage footway dining	Completed	An initial trial was considerably expanded with the emergence of COVID-19 social distancing requirements. The Al Fresco City project, in partnership with the NSW Government, funded the waiver of Outdoor Dining Fees from June 2020. Free outdoor dining on footpaths and reclaimed road space was taken-up extensively across the city and the City of Sydney resolved to extend fee waivers until June 2025.
1.29	Integration of public art in the City's public domain improvement projects (e.g. Chinatown Public Domain upgrade, City Centre Transformation – including laneways and light rail for George Street, Green Square and individual capital works projects such as the upgrade of Heffron Hall).	Completed (Ongoing)	Public Art is now a standard requirement in all suitable public domain improvement projects and private developments over a certain scale. A public art strategy or plan is a requirement for state significant urban renewal projects and all new masterplans.

1.30	Culture-led revitalisation of the Oxford Street precinct including curated creative retailing, affordable creative spaces, cultural and community events, pop-up retail, public art, open studios and establishment of the Oxford Street Creative Precinct Network.	Completed	This action was delivered over two phases. The first was the Oxford and Foley Street Creative Spaces program which included 14 office spaces and 11 retail tenancies offered at a subsidised rate for cultural and creative organisations in buildings owned by the City of Sydney. This creative tenancies program was complemented by the establishment of a Creative Precinct Network (called East Sydney Creative) which included networking activities, capacity building workshops and joint marketing campaigns.
			The second phase was the delivery of the Oxford Street Creative Precinct Planning Controls which require the retention of all existing cultural and creative floorspace across the precinct, and incentivise the delivery of new creative spaces by allowing development uplift in return for dedicating 10% of a building's floorspace to creative uses.
1.31	Fostering a creative hub in William Street including work and studio space, creative retail and residential live-work spaces for creative practitioners.	Completed (Ongoing)	William Street Creative Hub includes office and retail tenancies across more than 1,000 msq on the ground and third floor of 111 William Street, Darlinghurst. The spaces are offered at a subsidised rent rate through the Accommodation Grants Program.
			The William Street site also contains six Live/Work one bedroom apartments provided to artists for 18-month residencies at subsidised rents.
1.32	Development and launch of Sydney Culture Walks, a smartphone app presenting curated walking tours of historical sites and public art throughout the City's precincts.	Completed	The Sydney Culture Walks app was developed and launched and continues to be available for download at: www.sydneyculturewalksapp.com/
1.33	Develop the Cultural Ribbon Strategy and Implementation Plan.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Cultural Ribbon Strategy evolved into Yananurala – Walking on Country.
			Yananurala is a nine-kilometre walk along the Sydney harbour foreshore that shares new and old stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Yananurala Curator, Emily McDaniel, worked with the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins to develop the Harbour Walk Storytelling report which provides the foundation for Yananurala - a series of interconnected stories and sites from Pirrama (Australian National Maritime Museum) to Bayinguwa (Garden Island). These stories will form the basis for exhibitions, events, public art and heritage interpretation. Yananurala will assist locals and visitors to understand the concept of Country in the way that Aboriginal people experienced their land for millennia – by walking on Country.

1.34	Installation of a permanent iconic artwork at Taylor Square to mark the 40th anniversary of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras in 2018.	Completed	A temporary mural by Reko Rennie "Always Was, Always Will Be" was installed on the building at 1-5 Flinders Street, the southern side of Taylor Square. When the building was sold, the mural was removed at the artist's request. The City installed the pride flag on the Southern side of Taylor Square as a permanent fixture. The flag was updated to the progress pride flag. The City worked with the NSW Government to propose a state heritage listing for Taylor Square and the former Darlinghurst Police Station to recognise the significance of the sites to LGBTIQA+ rights movements and the establishment of Sydney Mardi Gras. A commemorative plaque will be installed in Taylor Square to acknowledge this history. The City maintains a rainbow crossing on the southern side of Taylor Square, and planning is underway to deliver a second rainbow crossing on the northern side of the square, adjacent the former Darlinghurst Police Station. Both rainbow crossings will feature the Progress Pride flag design. The City provided cash and in-kind support to the establishment of Qtopia, a LGBTIQA+ museum and community cultural space in the former Darlinghurst Police Station and the electricity sub-station in and under Taylor Square.
1.35	Dedicating $20 million to public art, including place-based projects in George Street, and seven major public-art commissions that recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and contemporary expression (an Eora Journey Project).	Completed (Ongoing)	The Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain Public Art program is a series of projects, from Redfern to Sydney Harbour, celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture. The Eora Journey has been extended with the creation of Yananurala / Walking on Country, a 9km walk along the harbour foreshore. The Eora Journey public art program is an ongoing commitment. As of 2024, 4 Eora Journey projects have been delivered: *Welcome to Redfern* by Reko Rennie and local Aboriginal youth in 2013, *born into darkness before dawn*, 2013 a temporary projection work on the Australian Museum by Nicole Forsehew, *YININMADYEMI, thou didst let fall* by Tony Albert in Hyde Park in 2015, and *bara* Monument for the Eora by Judy Watson launched by the community in May 2022. As part of the transformation of George Street through pedestrianisation and the introduction of lightrail and new furniture and street trees, the City worked with Curator Barbara Flynn to commission a series of artworks *The Distance*

			of Your Heart, 2018 by Tracey Emin, *Patchwork of Light,* 2020 by Lara Schnitger and *In Through the Out Door,* 2024 by Callum Morton. The City Art Temporary Laneway Art Program in 2021 saw the installation four temporary artworks in spaces off George Street in the City Centre. *Giant Badges* by Adam Norton, *Ever Sun* by Rochelle Haley, *We Are All Astonishingly Wise* by Katy B Plummer and the *Barlow Street Forest* by the Dirt Witches. *We Are All Astonishingly Wise* was acquired by the City as a permanent artwork in Abercrombie Lane and the *Barlow Street Forest* was redesigned with the Dirt Witches to become a permanent green space in the City in 2023.
1.36	Establishment of the City's Events and Film Liaison Unit to support creative and cultural events on public land in the City's local government area.	Completed	This unit has been established and has an ongoing function.
1.37	Encouraging the activation of rooftop spaces where it is appropriate and where amenity impacts can be mitigated.	Investigated and Not Implemented	The City's Art & About program investigated and trialled the activation of rooftop spaces, and successfully produced a rooftop cinema on the Goulburn Street carpark. However, national construction code requirements for equitable access and fire safety make the activation of most rooftops in the city centre very challenging, and further projects have not been actively encouraged as the compliance are complex and costly. Proposals for rooftop activations are considered and assisted on a case-by-case basis.
1.38	Commissioning of site-specific legacy artwork with the Biennale of Sydney (2014, 2016 and 2018) for permanent installation in the city.	Completed	The Legacy Art Partnership with Biennale of Sydney delivered two permanent public artworks over five years. The audio visual interactive artwork *The City of Forking Paths,* 2014 by Janet Cardiff and George Bures-Miller available for download from the City Art website and *Here, an Echo* 2016 by Agatha Gothe-Snape in Wymess Lane.
1.39	Ensuring that the hiring policies, prices, facilities and liquor-licensing options associated with City of Sydney-managed outdoor spaces are optimised to support the provision of live music and performance, across small and large scales.	Completed	Hiring policies for outdoor venues were reviewed and a streamlined process for event approvals was introduced. To reduce cost barriers, venue hire waiver grants are available for cultural events wishing to book the City's outdoor venues. City staff provide guidance to event operators on approvals processes, funding and fee waiver opportunities. Liquor licenses, catering licenses and pop-up event licenses can all be used in the City's outdoor venues, but the licensing process and

| | | | conditions are the responsibility of Liquor and Gaming NSW.

The City's busking policy was reviewed and now supports larger musical acts and performance troupes (over 5 performers), and durational performance art. |
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| 1.40 | Undertaking a review of the City of Sydney Busking Policy to identify ways to simplify the process and provide opportunities to support and promote buskers to the general public, retail operators, land owners and event producers. | Completed | A new Busking Policy was completed in 2019 introducing a simplified Busking Permit system. A number of restrictions on the size and nature of busking acts, and outdated definitions of busking performances were removed. The Busking Guidelines were replaced with a Buskers Code that provides plain English guidance on how to manage your busking performance and comply with the conditions of your permit.

The Policy recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice is not busking, is a right of First Nations people, and does not require a permit from the City. The Policy provides cultural protocols and safety guidance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Performances. |
| 1.41 | Producing an annual events program including New Year's Eve, Chinese New Year, Christmas and Art & About that reflects the unique characteristics of the City's spaces and precincts. | Completed | The City's annual events program has grown over the course of the Cultural Policy: New Year's Eve celebrations have been enhanced with the addition of Calling Country; Chinese New Year is now Sydney Lunar Festival, embracing the diversity of Asian cultural traditions associated with the Lunar Year over two weeks; Christmas celebrations include an expanded program of free family performance across local villages; Art & About is an annual program of temporary public art; and Sydney Streets regularly closes high-streets in local villages for a spontaneous neighbourhood street party. |
| 1.42 | Commissioning a review of policy and process concerning murals, street art, graffiti and uncommissioned art, and creating a register of significant murals and study of street-art sites in the local government area. | Completed | The City advocated for and implemented planning policy that allows for murals and street art as exempt development (which does not require a DA) with owners consent, except on heritage items and areas.

A register of significant murals for preservation and maintenance is complete. |
| 1.43 | Develop an Events Strategy | Completed (Superseded) | The City's Events team have developed an ongoing annual calendar of events and strategic priorities for their delivery. |
| 1.44 | The development of the Harbour Village North Public Domain Study including a works plan for a range of improvements at Observatory Hill (including the Observatory Hill Pathway project to improve pedestrian circulation) with an indicative budget over 10 years of $18,000,000.) | Completed | Harbour Village North Public Domain plan is completed. It includes works outside Millers Point Community Centre and integrated works with Barangaroo. |

1.45	Conserving and maintaining 250 permanent works including monuments, sculptures, murals, mosaics, installations, new media works, fountains and monuments in accord with its 2007-17 Conservation Plan.	Completed	This work is resourced as an ongoing function of the City Art program. Updates are available in the 2017-27 City Art Conservation Plan.
1.46	Producing a Public Art Strategy, City Art including commitments to major art projects, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, temporary art, local and community art, and art in new developments.	Completed	Completed and delivered. The City Art public art strategy will be reviewed and refreshed in 2026.
1.47	Include survey questions about precinct character and distinctiveness in the City's recurring residents survey.	Completed	The City's Residential Wellbeing Survey has been updated to include questions related to satisfaction with local amenity, the quality of creative expression in the public domain, and cultural activities across city precincts.
1.48	Include survey questions about creativity in the public domain in the City's recurring Residents Survey.	Completed	The City's Residential Wellbeing Survey has been updated to include questions related to satisfaction with local amenity, the quality of creative expression in the public domain, and cultural activities across city precincts.
1.49	Develop and pilot a new evaluation methodology to test community perceptions and value of public art commissions.	In Progress	The City's Wellbeing Survey captures satisfaction with creativity in the public realm. Community engagement related to the City's Community Strategic Plan and Cultural Policy continues to record strong support for public art. The City captures feedback from people who attend public art tours, this indicates an ongoing interest in connecting with the city through public art, and a high degree of satisfaction from gaining a better understanding of the artwork.
1.50	Review type and number of cultural activities in the public domain as part of enhanced corporate-reporting systems.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City gathers information on cultural activities in the public domain including those activities we produce, those we fund, and those we provide approval to.
1.51	Support the City's 'enabling' activities through formal feedback channels including online surveys, targeted interviews and debriefing sessions and independent research.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City undertakes online surveys, targeted interviews, debriefing sessions and independent research through its Strategy and Urban Analytics team. The City's cultural research is available online.

2.01	Develop strategic partnerships with key cultural institutions, business and/or tertiary education partners to build sustainable long-term, creative skill development opportunities for the public, including children.	Completed	The City's funding programs regularly support cultural institutions and major festivals to deliver skills development and creative training public programs. The City delivers purpose built facilities for creative participation and creative programs for adults and children including at Pine Street Creative Centre, Joynton Avenue Creative Centre, Ultimo Community Centre arts class room, Darling Squarer makerspace, and the library network.
2.02	Investigate opportunities to work with tertiary education or other relevant partners to provide casual or membership-based access to creative space and equipment.	Completed	Partnerships with tertiary education facilities were investigated but opportunities for year round open access to creative spaces was not feasible. The City delivers access to creative spaces and equipment through our accommodation grants program, libraries, community venues and purpose-built facilities at Darling Square makerspace, Joynton Avenue Creative Centre, East Sydney Community and Arts Centre and the City of Sydney Creative Studios.
2.03	Promote existing collaborative consumption schemes to encourage exchange of appropriate hardware and tools for creative activity.	Completed	The City reviewed existing collaborative consumption platforms related to creative activity and found a market gap. A Knowledge Exchange grant funded a not-for-profit organisation, Frontyard, to develop and pilot a collaborative consumption platform specific to the cultural sector. This research and pilot did not demonstrate sufficient sector demand. Cultural sector needs are met by organisations like The Bower and City library resources, as well as other digital platforms and social networks.
2.04	Support collaborative consumption schemes for access to musical instruments for eligible City residents in partnership with an industry peak body or appropriate music organisation, and NSW Department of Education & Communities.	Completed	Frontyard completed a Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship to develop and trial a model. This identified insufficient demand for local government to deliver such a service beyond existing libraries and hireable community spaces which have musical instruments, and other equipment such as 3D printers, recording studios and kilns for shared use.
2.05	Provide centralised information on participatory opportunities, including accessibility information, through the City's Creative City and Pine Street Creative Arts Centre web portals, and through City partner websites.	Completed	Events and participatory opportunities are presented on the What's On website which receives 100,000 visits and over a million page views per month. Opportunities are also promoted via a monthly Creative Sector update eDM to 7,000+ active subscribers.
2.06	Set priorities within the Cultural Grants Program to support strategically relevant creative initiatives that provide opportunities for community participation.	Completed	The funding priorities for Creative Grants (previously Cultural Grants), Community Grants, Festivals and Events Grants and Quick Response Grants (previously Matching Grants) include providing opportunities for creative participation.

2.07	Review current business and operating models for Pine Street Creative Arts Centre to improve scalability across the City and develop options for open-access membership programs and services.	Completed	The Pine Street model was reviewed and open access arts programs are now delivered across a number of community centres throughout the local area.
2.08	Review other City-run creative programs in the City's community venues to assess demand trends, programming mix, operational models, and capital purchases or fitouts required to increase opportunities for creative learning and skill development by the public, including people with disability.	Completed	The City collects data on cultural programs and venue usage to guide program innovation and investments. A specific supply and demand study was undertaken for city owned assets which contributed to an evaluation of, and strategy for, the city's community property portfolio.
2.09	Investigate soundproof practice-rooms within community centres including purchase and installation of tuned pianos and storage areas.	Completed	A sound-proofed music practice space with grand piano was delivered in the Green Square library. Music practice and recording facilities, with in-house instruments, are provided in the City of Sydney Creative Studios. Usage of these facilities will guide future investments.
2.10	Investigate opportunities for the creation of a dedicated large-scale workshop space to foster active community participation in major cultural events such as Chinese New Year and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras and support access to small-scale industrial equipment for start-up creative enterprise.	Completed	Sydney Lunar Festival and Mardi Gras have access to suitable workshop spaces, however, the City continues to investigate and advocate for facilities for large scale cultural production space in proximity to the city centre.
2.11	Advocate the inclusion of soundproof music practice-rooms in high-density housing developments.	Completed	The City's Local Strategic Planning Statement supports inclusion of a range of shared common facilities in multi-dwelling developments, including music rehearsal spaces.
2.12	Propose the joint development of localised evaluation methodologies to the NSW Government in support of Goal 24, NSW 2021 to build 'supportive connections between community members using…cultural activities, events, facilities and venues'.	Completed	The NSW 2021 Plan was largely superseded by the Greater Sydney Commission's Metropolis of Three Cities Plan and the requirement for Local Governments to deliver Local Strategic Planning Statements. Similar, relevant advocacy was issued to each plan, parliamentary enquiries into culture and the arts, and the development of the NSW Government's Culture, Arts and Creative Industries Policy. The City has advocated for the use of the Community Development Network (CDN) Framework for cultural evaluation methodologies across NSW so they will align with those adopted by the Council of Capital Cities Lord Mayors.

2.13	Development of new participatory Creative Arts Centre (based on Pine Street model) at Green Square, to be opened in 2018.	Completed	The Joynton Avenue Creative Centre was opened in 2018 and the Makerspace at Darling Square opened in 2019. Both offer facilities and programs for creative participation.
2.14	Ensure at least six City of Sydney hireable community facilities are promoted to local schools and young people as being available at no charge to students and at nominated times out of school hours for music and performance rehearsal.	Completed	As part of the City's Live Music and Performance Action Plan, all suitable city owned community facilities were made available for free to students for music and performance rehearsals. This was extensively promoted through delivery of the Action Plan.
2.15	The City will include questions about community opportunities to participate in creative activities, programs and initiatives in its recurring residents survey.	Completed	The City's Residential Wellbeing Survey includes questions related to community participation in arts and cultural activity and events.
2.16	The City will make major funding support for public participation initiatives conditional on qualitative and quantitative data, including participant numbers and evidence of unmet demand to help identify community trends.	Completed	Recipients of City grants for participatory programs, festivals and events are required to report data on attendance and user sentiment / satisfaction. The City uses this data to evaluate the success of funding programs and continued relevance of the funding priorities.
2.17	The City will track and report on growth in creative participation in programs offered by its services and facilities (including Pine Street Creative Arts Centre, community centres and the library network) and in new programs supported by the City.	Completed	This data is captured by the City's cultural evaluation framework, which is used to measure demand for City services and the success of cultural programs.
2.18	The City will support process improvements through the establishment of formal feedback channels including online surveys and independent research to ensure services are measuring community demand for creative activities and developing programs and services.	Completed	This City tracks participation in creative programs and uses this data to inform program improvements and innovation. Recipients of City grants are required to report data on attendance and user sentiment / satisfaction. The City uses this data to evaluate the success of funding programs and continued relevance of the funding priorities. Occasional research with the users of the City's programs, facilities, events and grants programs is conducted to identify potential unmet demand and service improvements.

3.01	Investigate a cooperative housing project for artists in their first five years of practice in the creative industries.	In Progress	The City has investigated methods of ensuring access to affordable housing for creatives, including through rent-to-own and creative live-work schemes and has advocated to the NSW Government for planning policy reform to unlock more avenues for innovative affordable housing and workspace. The City delivers a Creative Live/Work Space program in Darlinghurst and Waterloo with seven apartments offered below market rent on 18 month tenancies to a diverse range of artists. The City will continue to explore a range of private market options, legislation and planning reform to increase the supply of dedicated artist housing.
3.02	Engage business and commercial developers to incorporate temporary and long-term creative workspace into new developments, for example through the use of voluntary planning agreements.	Completed (Ongoing)	Planning Agreements provided for temporary artist studios on Kensington Street Chippendale as part of Fraser Property Group's Central Park redevelopment, five floors of permanent creative studio space in Greenland Group's Greenland Centre on Bathurst Street Sydney, the ARA Theatre in Darling Quarter delivered by Lendlease, permanent creative tenancies in Ashe Morgan and Toga Group's Oxford & Foley project, and the Machine Hall event space in Built Group's Substation No 164 development on Clarence Street Sydney.
3.03	Broker space-based projects with the business community to encourage the use of empty office, retail and other commercial space by creative practitioners (such as extending the application of the City's short-term creative spaces program to privately owned spaces/buildings, or working with third-party providers).	Completed	The City's Night Time Diversification grants program funded activities after 6pm in local businesses that wouldn't ordinarily trade late. The grant included support for community programs, cultural workshops, live music and performance programs. Over six years, the program supported 99 projects, including 66 regular live music programs at 58 local venues, with a value of $1,094,427 invested. The City's Business Support grants regularly provide support to local chambers of commerce and business precincts to fund creative programming in businesses. Creative programming in office, retail and commercial businesses is significantly restricted by building regulation and planning legislation. The City's Open and Creative Planning Reforms proposed an exempt and complying development path to simplify small scale cultural uses in these types of business. Although the proposal received extensive community endorsement, it was not implemented by the NSW Government Department of Planning and there remains no simple planning pathway for pop-up and temporary events.

3.04	Research opportunities for partnership with educational institutions and other appropriate providers to offer creative practitioners after-hours access to equipment and facilities.	Completed.	The City negotiated joint-use agreements with the Department of Education for the shared use of indoor and outdoor sports fields and access to other community facilities in the new Alexandria Park Community School, Inner Sydney High School in Surry Hills and Green Square Public School and Community Spaces in Zetland. The community can hire the shared spaces for use outside school hours for sporting and other events. The agreement on the Green Square school offers the community access to hire shared spaces, including a multipurpose court, communal hall and multipurpose indoor rooms. This school is under construction and scheduled for completion in 2025.
3.05	Establish formal relationships with peak bodies and representative sector organisations to build greater awareness of the current challenges and opportunities experienced by individual creative sectors.	Completed	The City established a Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel from 2018-2022, and a Cultural and Creative Sector Advisory Panel from 2023. These advisory panels include representatives from peak organisations, industry networks and key stakeholders in Sydney's cultural life. The advisory panels review and provide feedback to the City's work and act as a sounding board regarding emerging challenges and opportunities.
3.06	Invest in specific research or needs analysis for those parts of Sydney's cultural life under-represented by advocacy groups, or otherwise voiceless in cultural strategy debates.	Completed (Ongoing)	Knowledge Exchange Sponsorships have supported studies into the Small to Medium cultural sector, including research and advocacy for visual arts, independent performing arts, live music, and creative spaces providers. The City commissioned research by Indigenous Professional Services on skills development priorities for Aboriginal artists and cultural organisations, assisted the establishment of Film Festivals Australia and a strategic plan for local film festivals, and provided seed-funding to Audiocraft, Australia's first podcasting conference. The City founded and provided three years funding to the Contemporary Music Roundtable and the Global Cities After Dark Conference.
3.07	Promote existing training and professional development services for the creative sector (such as Creative Partnerships Australia, National Association for the Visual Arts, Creative Industries Innovation Centre) through the Creative City website and other platforms.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has regularly featured stories on such services through City of Sydney News and these services and their events are generally listed on the What's On website.
3.08	Conduct a gap analysis to determine shortfalls in existing support platforms to inform the City's Creative Industries Action Plan.	Completed (Superseded)	Ongoing support for the creative industries is included in the City's economic and cultural strategies and action plans. Research on the value and needs of the small to medium cultural sector was commissioned in 2016 and published on the City's website.

3.09	Amend the City's Grants Policy so each of the 73 properties in the City's Accommodation Grants Program and Oxford Street Creative Spaces Program are periodically opened to a competitive application process (excludes childcare services).	Completed (Superseded)	The policy was reviewed and it was determined that tenants meeting or exceeding their performance criteria will be supported to renew leases, prioritising long-term security for cultural operators and venues. The revised policy was adopted by Council in December 2017.
3.10	Review the Accommodation Grants Program and guidelines to ensure streamlined processes and communications; refined key performance indicators and eligibility criteria (to allow for individuals and start-up creative enterprise); and appropriate use of properties (by function and location).	Completed	The review of the Accommodation Grants Program (AGP) review was undertaken in 2015-16 and the amended Grants policy adopted by Council in December 2017. The Grants Policy and Guidelines underwent a review in 2021, with further program innovation and efficiencies implemented.
3.11	Provide funding support for venues to conduct acoustic audits for the purpose of programming live music and performance.	Completed	The City's Live Music and Performance grants assisted with the costs of capital works, acoustic treatments and equipment purchases associated with improving or establishing a performance venue. Over six years, this funding program delivered 88 grants to 67 unique venues. It helped upgrade facilities at 36 local music venues and theatres and created 31 new performance spaces in Sydney. The total value of the grants awarded was $1,419,822.
3.12	Make grants to relevant major festivals conditional on supporting local artists and venues through targeted marketing or programming initiatives.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's Festivals and Events grants require major festivals to dedicate the City's funding to supporting local artists and venues. For example, the City's support for Vivid is directed to the X|celerate program that provides funding to small local venues to host special programming as part of the Vivid Music festival, and the City's support for Sydney Fringe supports a number of local venues and artists each year.
3.13	Provide matched seed funding (up to $2,000) for small-scale creative initiatives in Sydney, accompanied by a simplified application and reporting process, and based on a quick response time.	Completed	The City's Quick Response Grants provide up to $10,000 for small-scale cultural events and activities at short notice, with a simplified application, contract and acquittal process, and generally assessed and notified within 6 weeks.
3.14	Review the City's Grants Policy to include applications to the Cultural Grants Program from individuals and creative enterprise.	Completed	Implemented through the revised policy adopted by Council in December 2017.
3.15	Create dedicated support within the Cultural Grants Program to support professional development of cultural organisations, with priority for building	Completed	Implemented through the revised policy adopted by Council in December 2017.

entrepreneurial and digital
capabilities.

3.16	Investigate options to increase access to training and skills development for creative enterprises as part of the development of the City's Creative Industries Action Plan.	Completed	In 2014, a role was established to develop and deliver sector support initiatives. Through this role, the City provided a series of skills development and capacity building workshops, business and legal advice clinics, and other programs to build enterprise in the local sector throughout the course of the Policy.
3.17	Develop new marketing resources for building awareness of existing digital platforms that promote creative workspaces (including meeting rooms) in Sydney, (such as www.creativespaces.net.au).	Completed (Ongoing)	This City took out a subscription with the Creative Spaces website and promoted the service. Creative space provider tenants in City of Sydney properties, such as Brand X and 107 Projects are promoted through the city's marketing channels.
3.18	Increase the capacity of four City community venues for use as rehearsal spaces with improvements (such as soundproofing, sprung floors, storage, wi-fi) as required.	In Progress	Improvements were made to East Sydney Community Arts Centre (formerly Heffron Hall), and a new purpose-built space, City of Sydney Creative Studios. Other community venues suitable for rehearsal spaces are being identified through the Accommodation Grants Programs. Erskineville Town Hall has been rezoned for performing arts uses.
3.19	Review five City of Sydney community venues to enable and increase their cultural activity use through providing low-cost, specialised facilities and equipment to accommodate a range of professional creative practices, such as aerial work, wet-dry space and equipment for visual artists, and office environments for start-up creative businesses.	In Progress	The Darlinghurst Tabernacle was repurposed as a 200 seat theatre, the Eternity Playhouse. Former nurses quarters behind Glebe Library were repurposed as artist studios (for experimental ceramics). Glebe Town Hall and Ultimo Community Centre have specialist ceramics equipment the community can access. The Oxford and Foley Street Creative Spaces programs provided studios, office space, and retail maker spaces across 25 tenancies. The Darling Square Library offers3D printing, laser cutting and programming that explores emerging technologies
3.20	Ensure all eligible properties in the City's property portfolio that are empty for longer than 12 weeks are activated through the City's Short Term Creative Space Register.	In Progress	The STEP (short term empty properties) program has provided 40 artists, creative business and cultural organisations with short term tenancies for projects, retail experimentation and temporary workspace. However, building code and planning policy reform is required in order to fully achieve the intention of this action. The City continues to advocate for simplified planning pathways for creative use of vacant commercial property.
3.21	Consider residency models in the city's libraries and other relevant spaces that provide work space for writers and deliver new programs and opportunities to library users and the broader community.	Completed	The City's live/work residential program, and opportunities at Joynton Ave Creative Centre and the City of Sydney Creative studios are open to writers. Occasional opportunities have been offered through the City's Library Programs.

3.22	Based on NYC Department of Planning policies for joint live-work quarters for artists in industrial/ manufacturing zones, investigate planning tools to enable the establishment of live-work spaces in non-residential buildings in the City's local government area for Sydney's creative workers.	Completed	The National Construction Code and NSW planning framework does not allow for residential accommodation in industrial zones. The City has advocated to the NSW Government to explore housing as an ancillary use to light industry in certain zones, or as part of a proposed creative industries infrastructure zoning.
3.23	Develop a Cultural Infrastructure Plan which articulates cultural infrastructure objectives and plans across the five domains of infrastructure needs (See Infrastructure).	Completed	The City undertook significant research and released Making Space for Culture, a cultural infrastructure study, in 2020. The report considers all levers available to local and state government for progressing an increased supply of diverse cultural infrastructure.
3.24	Ensure the City of Sydney's current and future cultural infrastructure plans (including the Integrated Community Facilities Strategy currently in development) acknowledge the importance of studio, office and rehearsal spaces.	Completed (Ongoing)	This advocacy is included in the Making Space for Culture study. Making Space for Culture and subsequent commitments of Council guides current and future infrastructure planning.
3.25	Research and review regulatory impediments to cultural initiatives outside music and performance, including temporary or pop-up restaurants, and cross-disciplinary creative initiatives	Completed	The City established a Cultural and Night Time Regulation and Planning project, and a Nightlife and Creative Industries Advisory Panel, to explore regulatory issues. Through this work the City developed *An Open and Creative City*, a suite of regulatory reforms and new late trading controls that actively incentivise cultural activities at night. This work also informed extensive advocacy to the NSW Government.
3.26	Ensure City cultural staff are available to offer support to the creative sector in navigating planning or regulatory matters on private land, including development applications.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has introduced a cultural case management process, and continues to provide cultural liaison officers to assist with regulatory and planning matters.
3.27	Develop information guides in several formats that provide specific information on the planning requirements and resources available for establishing creative spaces in Sydney.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's website is continually updated with information to help guide creative space operators through required approval processes. Bespoke assistance is provided through the cultural case management process and specific Creative Spaces Design Guides have been published.
3.28	Advocate to the NSW Government and community housing providers to provide access to affordable rental housing in the inner-city for artists and creative workers not traditionally classified as 'key workers'.	Completed	Creative workers with low incomes are eligible for community housing with City West Housing projects. The City has advocated to the NSW Government for purpose-built affordable artist housing and information services that better connect creative workers with affordable housing opportunities.

3.29	Support and inform major cultural infrastructure planning in conjunction with relevant state government departments including Arts NSW, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, and Destination NSW, including through financial contributions to needs analysis and business-case development.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City provided input to the NSW Government's Cultural Infrastructure Strategy, and continues to be consulted on key infrastructure initiatives, master plans and, where required, assesses relevant development applications.
3.30	Advocate quality, relevant and appropriate creative workspaces and facilities in new developments including advocating to the Barangaroo Delivery Authority for the inclusion of cultural infrastructure at Barangaroo Central based on the needs identified in Arts NSW's 2011 Cultural Infrastructure report.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City consistently advocated for the inclusion of cultural infrastructure in the Barangaroo development, including artists studios, rehearsal and performance venues and an outdoor stage. The City was consulted on the Cutaway project. The City makes recommendations for cultural facilities in all suitable developments within the City's influence. For example, the Machine Hall project in the former electricity substation on Clarence Street, Sydney, was repurposed as an event space through negotiation with the City.
3.31	Invite Arts NSW to develop a strategic partnership between the City and Arts NSW to synchronise application, evaluation and reporting processes and timelines for cultural grants; and develop coordinated policy responses to local sector trends.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City and Create NSW maintain a strong relationship and hold regular meetings to discuss and coordinate support and services. The two levels of government collaborated in response to Covid-19 with coordinated timing of grants and delivery of the Sydney Al Fresco program.
3.32	Promote inter-agency collaboration with relevant state government departments on key cultural sector issues, and promote complementary programs that tackle specific sector needs with the combined value of all agencies.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has invited collaboration with the Department of Planning and Liquor and Gaming NSW through the development and delivery of the Open and Creative proposal for planning reforms. Not all recommendations were accepted by the NSW Government. The City has worked closely with the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner since its establishment in the development and deliver of Covid-19 recovery programs, precinct development programs and precinct and venue funding programs. The City has an ongoing MOU with Destination NSW regarding support and promotion of cultural tourism and major events.
3.33	Support cross-sector dialogue and interaction through annual cross-sector workshops and networking events, and additional '101' forums and workshops.	Completed	The City provides an annual program of sector development projects, skills development workshops, business '101' forums, and networking events for tenants in the creative spaces program.
3.34	The City will promote crowd-funding platforms that showcase local creative initiatives.	Completed	The City provides ongoing promotion of creative sector programs and initiatives through a regular newsletter, social media channels and City News articles. Crowd-funding services are provided by the Australian Cultural Fund and managed by Creative Partnerships Australia. The City has promoted this service.

3.35	A total of 14 live-work studios to be redeveloped for artists and creative workers on Oxford Street, Darlinghurst.	Completed	This was scoped but the designated properties were leased to Ashe Morgan for the Oxford & Foley development. Other opportunities to deliver live/work space across the City's property portfolio continue to be investigated.
3.36	Refurbished and launched six live-work studios on William Street, East Sydney for exclusive use by creative workers.	Completed	Six rounds of tenancies have been offered in the William Street live/work studios supporting 63 artists and creative workers. The program is continuing and tenancy terms are being reviewed.
3.37	Ensure that criteria developed for allocation of City-owned live-work spaces encourages applications from musicians and performers, subject to the suitability of their practice to the space offered.	Completed	Completed. 11 musicians have received tenancies through the program.
3.38	Audit City of Sydney indoor and outdoor sites including Glebe Town Hall, Paddington Town Hall, Redfern Town Hall, Erskineville Town Hall, Alexandria Town Hall, Paddington Reservoir Gardens and Cook+Phillip Park to identify requirements to ensure their suitability as performance spaces, such as capital infrastructure works (including sound attenuation and purchase of pianos) and changes to current approvals and management plans (including development approvals, hiring policies, insurances, prices and liquor-licensing options).	Completed	Paddington Town Hall and Erskineville Town Hall were identified as most suitable for performance uses. Planning proposals were developed and approved to update the zoning for the Town Halls to support entertainment facilities.
3.39	Use the information gathered through the audit to plan modifications for community facilities and venues across the local government area to enable their use as live-music rehearsal and performance space, or to further enhance their capability.	Completed	A subsequent process to update zoning of other suitable Town Halls has been undertaken. The City commissioned Creative Spaces Design Guides to provide detailed spatial and structural guidance on the delivery of purpose-built and adaptive reuse performance spaces.
3.40	Based on the City of Yarra's Live Music Venue Parking Permit initiative, conduct a pilot program trialling a permit system which allows musicians, and other workers associated with live music and performance, to use loading zones adjacent to music and performance venues in the local government area for 15 minutes to unload and load instruments and equipment.	Completed	The City successfully advocated to the NSW Government to amend the definitions and conditions for using loading zones to include offloading and collecting equipment associated with live performances / gigs. The City of Sydney Neighbourhood Parking Policy has been updated to include provisions for adequate high-turnover parking spaces and loading zones adjacent cultural facilities, including music venues.

3.41	Review the Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 to recognise and reinforce existing areas of live-music and performance activity, as well as support the growth of new centres in appropriate locations.	Completed	The City addressed this through amendments to the Development Control Plan's late trading controls. The late trading controls identifying nightlife precincts all across the local area where later trading can be applied, as well as 24 hour trading in the city centre. In nightlife precincts, venues are rewarded with an additional hour of late trade when they program cultural activity and/or live music. Creative Precinct planning continues to be a focus of the City's Local Strategic Planning Statement.
3.42	Work with neighbouring councils and the NSW Government to help establish a major new outdoor event space for the Sydney area.	Completed	The City advocated for an outdoor event space to be included in the Barangaroo Central development. The City has reviewed and supported a NSW Government proposal for a permanent outdoor performance space to be built in the Domain.
3.43	Provision of 23 affordable workspaces for cultural organisations through the Accommodation Grants Program.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City currently has 24 cultural spaces available in the Accommodation Grants Program.
3.44	Provision of 18 affordable rental properties in Oxford Street for creative enterprise.	Completed	The City had 25 cultural spaces available in the Oxford and Foley Street Creative Spaces program until 2019. The designated properties have been leased long-term to Ashe Morgan for the Oxford & Foley development, which is required to replace an equivalent 1,600m2 of affordable workspace for creative operators in the development.
3.45	Provision of long-term (10 year) use of 113–115 William Street as a creative hub, including 500 square metres of affordable creative workspace (currently under lease until 2016).	In Progress	On expiration of leases in 2016, a number of creative tenancies were retained and additional creative tenancies sourced through a competitive Expression of Interest. The William Street Creative Hub continues to operate and currently provides 1,090m^2 of affordable creative workspace, plus 274m^2 of live/work residential space.
3.46	Approved use of Substation No.6 Taylor Square North for partial creative use, subject to expressions of interest, pending capital works.	Completed (Superseded)	The Substation has been leased to Qtopia as part of their delivery of an LGBTIQA+ Museum and cultural spaces across the Darlinghurst Police Station, the Taylor Square Substation and underground bathroom facilities, and Green Park Bandstand.
3.47	Approved long-term (10 year) use of the basement, level 1 and level 2 of 110 and 118 Oxford Street for affordable creative workspace, subject to expressions of interest, pending capital works.	Completed	The designated properties were leased to Ashe Morgan for the Oxford & Foley development. In this development they are required to deliver 1,600m2 of affordable creative workspace including in spaces within this location.
3.48	City's territory licence of the Creative Spaces website in place to 2015, to establish a central, free and accessible place for listings of available work, performance, rehearsal, meeting and exhibition space.	Completed	This site has been set up by a third party and continues to service the sector in Sydney.

3.49	Work with the Australian Hotels Association, Music NSW or other peak bodies to develop processes to increase the number of hotel spaces in the City of Sydney that can be made available to musicians and other artists for rehearsals.	Investigated and Not Implemented	This action cannot be delivered without changes to planning policy and the National Construction Code. The City scoped a pilot project and found little interest from the hotel sector. Recommendations made in the Open and Creative City planning reforms would have supported temporary rehearsal uses of vacant commercial property but these proposals were not supported by the NSW Government. To deliver this action, planning policy is required that supports temporary small scale cultural uses in a range of business and building types. The intention of the action may be better met with the provision of open-access, dedicated music rehearsal rooms in new residential and commercial developments.
3.50	Develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Economic Development Plan (an Eora Journey Project).	Completed	A ten year plan was developed and endorsed by Council. Implementation continues.
3.51	Establish an annual series of free '101' seminars that provide an overview of common issues and solutions involved in setting up a small business. Topics cover creative enterprise, pop-up activations and outdoor dining.	Completed	This action is addressed through the City's ongoing sector development program which aims to build capacity in individuals and organisations in the local creative sector. Programs have included partnerships with Arts Law and Creative Plus Business, 101-style seminars, a night school for creatives, one-on-one business mentoring, grant writing workshops and skills development for Aboriginal artists and cultural organisations. The City worked with the Live Music Office to provide a series of information sessions and seminars "The Essentials of Live Music" and "Bringing in the Music" The City seed-funded the establishment of the Contemporary Music Roundtable which provided ongoing industry commentary, collaboration and resources around these issues.
3.52	Implement an education and induction program covering the City's cultural priorities and support for live music, aimed at the City staff responsible for planning assessments, enforcement and compliance matters:	Completed (Ongoing)	The City established a "Cultural Champions" program amongst the City's Planning and Health & Building staff, whereby each team has at least one staff member with additional experience in assessing the specific needs of cultural and entertainment venues and creative operators. These staff work alongside cultural case manager and operations staff to provide tailored advice to the sector. A cross-divisional Night Time and Cultural Regulation and Planning group was established including key staff associated with regulating and monitoring businesses who operate in the night time and cultural economies. This group oversaw the Open and Creative planning reforms project and also considered ongoing and emerging issues and opportunities, and a training program on effective assessment and management of neighbourhood noise for Health & Building staff.

3.53	Develop information guides in several formats that provide specific information on the planning requirements and resources available for setting up a temporary or permanent live-music or performance venue in the City of Sydney.	Completed	The City has worked with the Live Music Office to provide a series of information sessions and seminars "The Essentials of Live Music" and "Bringing in the Music" as well as support for the Live and Local scheme and a number of printed and online resources. Bespoke assistance is available to operators wishing to set-up new venues.
3.54	Review City of Sydney planning controls to streamline approval processes for small-scale and temporary live-music and performance activity, including development of definitions for 'small to medium' live-music and performance. Consider expanded 'Exempt and Complying Development' provisions in Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012.	Completed	Recommendations for an exempt development path for small-scale cultural activities and performances in a range of businesses and building types were developed as part of the Open and Creative planning reforms proposals. The proposals were exhibited and received strong community support. These proposals were not taken up by the NSW Government.
3.55	Develop a pre-lodgement process (based on the Edinburgh 'Temporary Theatre Licence' concept) involving City of Sydney building approval, planning, health and building, and cultural staff to support the creation of non-traditional and temporary live- music and performance venues.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Night Time and Cultural Regulation and Planning group were responsible for troubleshooting issues around non-traditional and temporary venues. The City's cultural case management and pre-DA process continues to deliver bespoke advice to operators planning events or new venues.
3.56	Advocate to the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing to simplify the process for securing temporary liquor licensing, to assist cultural organisations to access short-term licences more easily and efficiently.	Completed	The City's consistent advocacy resulted in the introduction of pop-up and temporary event liquor licences. This diversity of scale of liquor licensing is now central to the NSW Government's 24 Hour Economy Strategy.
3.57	Establish a live-music and performance liaison role that is the first point of contact for regulatory enquiries and applications relating to live music and performance.	Completed	The Live Music and Performance Strategy Advisor role was resourced from 2014-2020 and has overseen the delivery of the Live Music and Performance Action Plan. Assistance with regulatory, planning and approvals process is now operationalised across cultural and business support units. Cultural Strategy Advisors and Night Time City Project Managers continue to provide industry liaison and support.
3.58	Partner with the National Live Music Office to develop ongoing localised research aimed at measuring the social and cultural role of live music and performance in the City of Sydney.	Completed	A research methodology has been developed in partnership with the Live Music Office, University of Tasmania, City of Melbourne and the South Australian Government. The key finding of this research is that live music spending in Australia delivers at least a 3:1 benefit-to-cost ratio. The initial report conservatively values the total net benefit of live music to the Australian community at approximately $15.7 billion in 2014, with $3.623M attributed to NSW. The City commissioned a further study using similar methodology to estimate economic, civic and social value of live music in the City

			of Sydney LGA to be $353.5M in 2016. The report is published under the title Valuing Live Music in the City of Sydney.
3.59	Partner with the National Live Music Office to develop ongoing localised research aimed at measuring the social and cultural role of live music and performance in the City of Sydney.	Completed	Note: duplicate action was published in the original plan.
3.60	Conduct a cultural infrastructure audit (across all domains) through the 5-yearly City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Survey to develop baseline information, followed by 5-yearly assessment of percentage change.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has developed a repeatable methodology to track cultural infrastructure in the local area through the Floorspace and Employment Survey. The research shows a reduction of over 170,000 square metres of creative space in the local area between 2007 – 2017.
3.61	Increase the number of spaces used for cultural and creative purposes in the City's Creative Spaces programs (including Accommodation Grants Program) by 25 per cent over the next five years.	Completed (Ongoing)	There have been 31 spaces for cultural and creative purposes within the Creative Spaces programs, a 35% increase on the 2014 count of 23.
4.01	Based on the Tasmanian Government's 'Collect' program, support the development of an interest-free loans scheme to encourage the purchase of art produced by living artists from galleries and studios based in the City of Sydney.	Completed	Art Money was established with seed-funding from the City. Art Money provides interest free loans for original art purchases in participating galleries. The City's funding supported Art Money to launch in 35 galleries in Sydney in 2015. Within one year it was offered in 140 galleries nationally, generating over $1.7 million in artwork sales. By 2023 Art Money has grown into a global fin-tech platform selling more than 20,000 artworks worldwide.
4.02	Pilot a 'theatre passport' scheme that makes affordable tickets available for high school students by using the unsold ticket stock in Sydney's cultural venues.	Completed	The City funded the establishment of a theatre passport through a competitive expression of interest process. The successful tender, Playwave, was launched in October 2017 as an online membership platform that provides low-cost access to unsold theatre and events tickets to 15-24 year-olds. Within its first eighteen months of operation Playwave signed-on 51 venue partners and 790 young subscribers.
4.03	Scope the viability and demand for expanding transport options (such as car-share models) to targeted cultural events and festivals, including extending the City's free community transport services for disabled passengers to reach new cultural organisations and venues.	Completed	The delivery of the light rail and changes to car share services helped address this action. The City provided funding to Gig Buddies, a program that supports people with disability to attend live performances with a volunteer buddy. The City's Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan considers transport demand and supply and the City's free community bus continues to assist people to travel to some cultural activities.

4.04	Research best-practice models to support young people and seniors to access night-time cultural events (such as parking-fee discounts to P-plate drivers under the age of 25, and the German taxi systems for safe travel for young women).	Completed	The City has undertaken considerable advocacy work regarding access to nighttime transport as part of the Open Sydney strategy. The emergence of ride share services and bicycle hire services have in part addressed this need.
4.05	Based on best-practice models from other sectors, consider options to support the development of location-based apps, or other digital tools, that aggregate and promote the cultural offering of Sydney, including access to 'last minute' discount or affordable tickets.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has invested in the development of the What's On website and app, Sydney's largest free events directory. What's On information is aggregated into weekly email digests and work is being done to explore integration with the City's digital street advertising assets.
4.06	Stipulate conditions for grants to major festivals and events to ensure they include appropriate, targeted activities and opportunities for families, children and young people.	Completed (Ongoing)	Free family-focused events are delivered by a number of major festivals and events with the City's grant support. Where appropriate these are specific contracted deliverables for the City's investment in that event.
4.07	Set priorities within the Cultural Grants program for creative initiatives that build markets or audiences or that improve access to the City's cultural offer	Completed (Ongoing)	This funding priority was added to the Cultural and Creative grants program.
4.08	Investigate the installation of community poster boards for local events in appropriate cultural precincts and transport hubs throughout the City of Sydney.	Completed	A number of dedicated poster bollards were installed in high traffic areas near transport hubs. Festivals that wish to use the City's temporary signage and wayfinding poles during their events can use this equipment by negotiation. Work is now being done to integrate event advertising into the City's digital street advertising assets.
4.09	Investigate the introduction of a cultural concierge service as part of the City's 24-hour customer and visitor services.	Completed	The City has prioritised the development of the What's On platform to deliver information about local cultural offerings. A Cultural Concierge service was investigated but not recommended.
4.10	Include cultural information in the City's Wayfinding Program.	Completed	Wayfinding signage across the local area is updated to feature cultural information, public artworks and cultural venues, on an ongoing basis.
4.11	Pilot a 12-month children's activity program (5–12 year olds) in partnership with key cultural organisations. The pilot will be in one or two locations in the City of Sydney LGA, synchronised with performance times at local cultural venues.	Completed	The City funds individual festivals and performing arts companies to provide specific children's programming as and when required.
4.12	Promote the universal access symbol and 'welcome card' through the City's events and other major events it supports.	Completed	The City supported Accessible Arts to deliver an access symbol accreditation program across local cultural venues as well as a marketing campaign to build awareness of Sydney's accessible venues.

4.13	Promote the 'companion card' on the city's Creative City website and encourage its promotion by the major festivals it funds.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City supports and promotes the use of the companion card and has specific actions related to its use in Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan.
4.14	Conduct an access audit of the City's outdoor public art program.	Completed	An access audit has not been completed. However, the City has developed clear objectives for achieving accessibility in its outdoor public art programs [in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards] which are outlined in the City's inclusive and accessible public domain guidelines
4.15	Ensure future versions of the City's walking tours are accessible, including audio descriptions of the City's cultural assets and public art.	Completed	Sydney Culture Walks App has been reviewed by Vision Australia and accessibility updates have been implemented. City Art ran an Auslan Tour as part of the free public art tours.
4.16	Pilot a discount parking scheme at the Kings Cross Car Park (Monday–Thursday) to support local artists and encourage attendance at the Hayes Theatre, Griffin Theatre and other local cultural venues.	Investigated and Not Implemented	The car park is owned by the City but it is operated under a commercial tenancy and the City cannot determine or require discounts for them to offer. The City advocates for active and public transport as a priority.
4.17	Amend section 3.3 of the City's draft Neighbourhood Parking Policy ('Community and Recreational Facilities') to 'Community, Cultural and Recreational Facilities' and ensure that parking controls adjacent to these facilities allow for turnover that balances the needs of all users.	Completed	The City of Sydney Neighbourhood Parking Policy was updated in 2018 to include provisions for adequate high-turnover parking spaces adjacent cultural facilities, music venues and theatres.
4.18	Investigate the introduction of wi-fi into the City's major public spaces including parks and squares through public or private partnership, or other means.	Completed	Wi-fi is offered in City owned community spaces. The City has supported the delivery of free public wi-fi by commercial operators, as appropriate and through development approval paths.
4.19	Invite Transport NSW, Destination NSW and other relevant agencies to promote Sydney's broad cultural offering through digital signage or other tools within Sydney's transport network.	Completed	The City advocated to Transport NSW to use their digital screen assets to promote cultural content, but the screens are privately managed by advertising operators. The City's street furniture contract requires the operator to provide subsidised advertising space for community and cultural use.
4.20	Work collaboratively with relevant stakeholders to improve transport options at the northern end of Macquarie Street to aid the safe dispersal of theatregoers, diners and visitors.	Completed (Ongoing)	Completed.

4.21	Represent the needs and talents of people with disability in negotiations with other levels of government, such as accessible public transport to arts events.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City established an Inclusion (Disability) Access panel which includes a program of advocacy in support of people with disability.
4.22	Include conditions in all major festival-funding agreements or major event sponsorships that ensures all major events include a range of free or low-cost activities.	Completed (Ongoing)	Major festival and events in receipt of City funding are require to provide free and low-cost events for local communities, negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
4.23	Dependent on availability, eligible cultural organisations can apply for value-in-kind grants (in the form of reduced hire rates) for City banners, a significant outdoor advertising opportunity	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's grants policy and guidelines were updated to include subsidised banner-pole hire as an in-kind service available for which cultural organisations can apply.
4.24	Provide free 'what's on' events listing and e-newsletters (30,000 subscribers) and promotional opportunities on the Creative City website.	Completed (Ongoing)	Whats On Sydney is the City's free online platform that promotes cultural and community activities and is amplified through an email digest.
4.25	Work with other agencies to improve transport to the city's cultural precincts including Walsh Bay and Dawes Point.	Completed	The City consistently advocates for improved and integrated public transport across the local area. In particular the City influenced the introduction of light rail to Circular Quay and a new metro station at Barangaroo, which will better service the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct.
4.26	Advocate amendment to the Passenger Transport Act 1990 to enable innovative, privately operated transport options.	Completed	Since 2014, car and ride share services have become a common transport option.
4.27	Advocate increased frequency of night-ride bus services.	Completed (Ongoing)	Through the Open Sydney Strategy and relationship with the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner, the City consistently advocates for increased late night public transport across the city centre and nightlife precincts.
4.28	Increase late-night bicycle parking points and stations with bicycles for hire.	Completed	Multiple dockless bike share services are now available through the private market.
4.29	Support audience development through trials of early-evening and late-night activity.	Completed	The City introduced a Night Time Diversification funding stream to assist with the costs of programming diverse activities after 6pm, including live performance and cultural events, and encourage businesses that wouldn't ordinarily trade late to do so. Over six years, the program supported 99 projects, including 66 regular live music or performance programs at 58 local venues.

4.30	Work with Accessible Arts to gather data on current access standards in City of Sydney venues, and to develop live-music- and live-performance-focused resources and training, including advice on low- cost disability-access solutions for temporary and non-traditional venues.	Completed	The City provided a Knowledge Exchange sponsorship to Music NSW to undertake an accessibility audit of local music venues, develop resources, guidance and an accreditation program to assist local venues in becoming more accessible for people with a disability.
4.31	Pilot a live-music performance series for young people, aged between 12 and 24, coordinated by the City's youth services team, in different locations across the local government area. Engage young people in the planning, promotion, delivery and evaluation of the events and support them with relevant mentoring.	Completed	The Sydney Youth Music team, coordinated through the City of Sydney Social Services unit have resourced and organised regular all-ages events since 2015 and continue to do so.
4.32	Expand the City of Sydney youth services team's program of events to provide monthly all-ages live- music events using established venues.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Sydney Youth Music team, coordinated through the City of Sydney Social Services unit have organised regular all-ages events since 2015. The City funded Music NSW to establish all ages gigs programs that trains a committee of young producers to curate and promote all ages gigs in venues across Sydney.
4.33	The City will monitor and make available ABS or other significant data on cultural participation and attendance in the City of Sydney local government area, along with international trends and best-practice audience-development initiatives.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's research includes ongoing analysis of ABS data, as well as the City's Wellbeing Survey and the Floorspace and Employment Survey. The City has published this analysis in the Making Space for Culture study, and regularly features the findings in submissions to state and federal enquiries
4.34	The City will include survey questions about community opportunities to attend cultural activities, programs and initiatives in its recurring residents survey.	Completed (Ongoing)	This content has been included in the City's Wellbeing Survey
4.35	The City will collect and analyse aggregated audience data collected from all funded organisations (a condition of funding), including attendance, demographic information where available, audience-development initiatives and their relative success.	Completed (Ongoing)	This data is sourced through grant acquittals and is used to help evaluate the City's programs.
4.36	The City will include survey questions about the perceived barriers to attend cultural activities, programs and initiatives in its recurring residents survey.	Completed	This content has been included in the Wellbeing Survey.

4.37	The City will propose a cultural data protocol with Arts NSW and the Australia Council to support the development of locally relevant indicator frameworks and data sharing.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City has worked with the Culture Development Network and the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors to establish a standardised data schema for evaluating local government cultural programs. The City is working with Culture Counts on integrated evaluation methodology across the City's programs and those it funds.
5.01	Investigate a partnership with relevant stakeholders to trial a 'thinker-in-residence' model for Sydney.	Completed (Superseded)	Initial investigation found the program would be expensive and complex to resource. The City has provided individual organisations with funding to support residency programs. The City welcomes artistic thinking into its own decision making through the Cultural Sector Advisory Panel.
5.02	Investigate partnerships with cultural organisations to make Sydney's rich historical and archival collections more accessible, through promotion and integration of new technologies, or programs.	Completed (Ongoing)	History and curatorial staff regularly present public programs and curate exhibitions about Sydney's history, including a partnership with Carriageworks in 2017 to produce the exhibition 1917: The Great Strike. In 2020 the City Archives launched the new History and Archives Resources catalogue to make the City's archival collections accessible. Aldermen biographical content is harvested and available through the National Library's TROVE.
5.03	Develop an online how-to guide for house histories, supported by workshops in the libraries, to enable local history research by the community.	Completed	The City's online House and Building Histories Guide, developed over 10 years by the History Team, shows the research tools offered by the City Archives to research a building's history in the local government area. History and archives staff presented a series of online workshops to help the community research this history of their home in 2021 and 2022.
5.04	Stipulate grants to major festivals require them to incorporate increased opportunities for learning and idea sharing through programs that include talks, forums, master classes and workshops.	Completed (Ongoing)	These funding priorities have been included in the Cultural and Creative grants and Festivals and Events grants. When applicable, successful grant recipients are contracted to deliver these outcomes.
5.05	Reorient existing City library-network resources to develop and extend talks and events on current topics through strategic partnerships with appropriate institutions and content providers.	Completed (Ongoing)	A programming framework was developed in 2016 to guide programming across the library network. The framework clearly articulates the programming vision, themes, pillars and objectives to be delivered within library programs and supports opportunities for strategic partnerships in order to provide expert content.
5.06	Develop a plan for the City's library-network that incorporates new technologies, audience- engagement strategies and targets, and operating models based on community needs and local partnership plans.	Completed	The current Library strategy delivery uses RFID and a new Customer Service delivery model. The track and measure of library programs and services is regularly reviewed and ongoing.

5.07	In partnership with relevant industry bodies, expand its existing suite of historical and cultural walking tours through the development of a Guide to Small Sydney Museums to improve awareness of Sydney's local history and culture.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Sydney Culture Walks app is regularly updated to include new sites as they emerge, including smaller museums and cultural spaces.
5.08	Make the City's history, archival and civic collections more accessible to local schools and students through promotion, programs and curriculum-linked resources.	Completed	The City has developed school curriculum materials in relation to specific exhibitions and programs, such as the 175 Exhibition that celebrated 175 years of the City of Sydney. The City provides curriculum linked content to local public schools by negotiation. A Civic Collection exhibition space was opened in Town Hall House in 2024, providing access to collection items to students and the community.
5.09	Engage with the NSW Department of Education to consider new partnerships with local schools that involve local arts practitioners and support arts education in schools	Completed (Ongoing)	One of four elements of Tobias Rehberger's artwork *Here is Here, And Everywhere.* which is currently in development is located at the school site on the corner of Joynton and Zetland Avenues. Designed to allow a space for students to meet, gather and engage with the ideas of connecting Green Square. The Department of education is also commissioning an artwork as part of the multiuse games court included in the school and the City has been supporting them throughout the process of commissioning this work.
5.10	Support and advocate for an Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre (an Eora Journey project).	In Progress	The City has advocated to the NSW Government and the Federal Government to resource a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre in the City of Sydney. Any such centre will need to be developed in consultation with the community and led by suitable First Nations organisations or representatives.
5.11	Support for the establishment of a local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre (an Eora Journey project).	Completed	In 2024 the City opened 119 Redfern Street as a local Aboriginal knowledge and culture centre Community Centre as part of the Eora Journey.

5.12	Development and support for a signature event in the city that brings a new focus to the understanding and support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture (an Eora Journey project).	Completed (Ongoing)	The City continues to deliver NAIDOC in the City as part of its delivery of a signature event celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, one of the four pillars of the Eora Journey. The City has evolved NYE to include Calling Country, an indigenous programming segment as part of the TV broadcast. The City provides cash and in-kind support to Yabun Festival on 26 January. These investments are complemented by the Eora Journey public art projects.
5.13	Research into inner Sydney's Aboriginal histories and connections, incorporating cultural mapping and walking tours, delivered through the Barani website (http://www.sydneybarani.com.au), Barani Barrabugu booklet and Sydney Culture Walks app.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Barani website, the Barani Barrabugu booklet and the Sydney Culture Walks app continue to present ongoing research into the history and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people in Sydney. There are 4 self-guided walks and tours with a focus on Aboriginal Sydney in the app. Over 65,000 booklets have been distributed since 2011. The website has an average of 240,000 pageviews annually since 2013.
5.14	Support for the Sydney Film Festival hub to expand the experience for film festival audiences and encourage knowledge sharing and learning.	Completed (Ongoing)	As part of a multi-year sponsorship agreement, the City provided space in lower Sydney Town Hall free of charge to the Sydney Film Festival to host a Festival Hub and public programs.
5.15	Year-round talks programs including the free City Conversations and Design Excellence series, to share knowledge about urban issues and city–making in the 21st century.	Completed (Ongoing)	The CityTalks program engages our communities in dialogue to realise the city's environmental, social, cultural and economic ambitions. Each event brings together thought leaders who unpack significant issues at a global, national and city level, and spark new partnerships and collaboration opportunities.
5.16	Development of a self-guided-historical-walking-tours oral history collection, and historical information that records and reflects the diversity of Sydney's many communities.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Sydney Culture Walks app continues to expand with new audio content. Short audio clips from the City's oral history collection were first incorporated into the app in 2015, and 3 walks now have audio enhancements: Port, Parade and Seranade.
5.17	Memorandums of understanding with Sydney's largest universities to reflect a joint commitment to authoritative research that can enable evidence-based policy formulation for key city strategies, including transport, night-time economy and economic development.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City maintains MOUs with the University of Sydney and the University of Technology Sydney. They establish broad principles for collaboration, research, and have influenced the development of the Camperdown/Ultimo Innovation Precinct and Tech Central.
5.18	Piloting Australia's first 24-hour libraries in Surry Hills, Kings Cross or Haymarket.	Completed	The City explored options and determined that there was not enough demand to have a 24 hour library.

5.19	The City will measure change in library attendances, borrowings, frequency, visitation, new attendances and user mix.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City collects and measures all relevant library data including attendance, borrowing, digital and in person visitation and program attendance.
5.20	The City will include questions about community opportunities to access further learning and knowledge sharing in its recurring residents survey.	Completed	The City's Wellbeing Survey has been updated to include questions related to access to learning and knowledge sharing opportunities
5.21	The City will measure take up and usage of City-generated resources (such as walking tour downloads) to track demand for its digital resources.	Completed (Ongoing)	This data is captured by the City's cultural evaluation framework, which is used to measure demand for City services and the success of cultural programs.
5.22	The City will ensure formal feedback channels including online surveys and independent research, to ensure City programs help meet community demand for learning and knowledge-sharing opportunities.	Completed (Ongoing)	This data is captured by the City's cultural evaluation framework, which is used to measure demand for City services and the success of cultural programs.
6.01	In association with Destination NSW and Tourism Australia, explore mechanisms to promote Sydney as a vibrant accessible city of art and culture for overseas tourists with disability.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City maintains a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Destination NSW that outlines joint efforts to monitor, resource and promote cultural tourism. The City's investments in accessible venues, accreditation programs and marketing Sydney's accessible cultural offerings support this action. The City has an Inclusion (Disability) Action plan which includes advocacy to support an accessible city for all visitors.
6.02	Investigate partnership opportunities with Austrade and other agencies to support Sydney's creative exports through microloans or other mechanisms.	Investigated and Not Implemented	Funding trade and export initiatives is the responsibility of State and Federal governments.
6.03	Develop a strategic partnership program that supports international partnerships with local results or leverages branding opportunities.	Completed (Superseded)	Such strategic partnerships are undertaken by local festivals and cultural organisations and are already supported through the City's existing funding agreements with relevant cultural operators.
6.04	Review export-market development-grant models for the City's Creative Industries Action Plan.	Investigated and Not Implemented	Funding trade and export initiatives is the responsibility of State and Federal governments.
6.05	Offer value-in-kind grants for use of City Recital Hall or other City venues for eligible talks, workshops and forums by international creative workers and local collaborators.	Completed (Ongoing)	In-kind venue hire waivers are offered for venues operated by the City. The City funds international engagement and knowledge sharing projects through the Cultural and Creative grants program.

6.06	Stipulate funding for major festivals is conditional on the provision of increased opportunities for international collaborations and knowledge-sharing opportunities between international visiting artists and local creative practitioners.	In Progress	Collaboration between international and local artists has been supported through the Festivals and Events grant program and the Cultural and Creative grants.
6.07	Expand the City's suite of curated walking tours of key cultural sites, including lesser-known and underground cultural attractions.	Completed (Ongoing)	This continues to be delivered through the Sydney Culture Walks app. The City also promoted our villages, including walking tours and village guides through our #sydneylocal campaign. Grants have been awarded to create Culture Scouts Walking tours providing a local view of the City's cultural hubs. TheSydney Ambassadors continue to provide information to visitors.
6.08	Promote 'locals' tours to encourage visitor engagement with lesser known and underground cultural activities and venues.	In Progress	A number of commercial operators promote their tours of Sydney's neighbourhoods and landmarks through the City's What's On platform. The City has funded business chambers and precinct associations to promote their neighbourhood offer through various maps, websites and precinct activation projects.
6.09	Broker relationships between existing tourism services and local cultural institutions to promote cultural offerings to international tourists.	Completed (Ongoing)	The City's business support grants fund collaboration between cultural producers, marketing services and local businesses at a precinct level to develop destination campaigns for a local and tourist market.
6.10	Promote talks and workshops by visiting artists and creative workers on the City's relevant websites including What's on and/or Creative City Sydney.	Completed (Ongoing)	What's On is regularly used to promote such events.
6.11	Develop an annual international fellowship program, based in one of the City's live-work studios, that recognises and celebrates creative innovation, and promotes collaboration with the local creative community.	Completed (Superseded)	The City has prioritised live/work residency opportunities for local artists. The one bedroom apartment in the City of Sydney Creative Studios is made available to interstate and international artists in partnership with local arts organisations hosting visiting artists.
6.12	Review opportunities to partner with the NSW Government through Destination NSW and Tourism Australia to support key cultural recommendations in the 2012 Visitor Economy Taskforce Report and develop co-operative programs that support and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural experiences.	Completed	The City continues to collaborate with Destination NSW to deliver unique cultural experiences for visitors, through marketing campaigns and promotion of new cultural experiences. The City has created Yananurala, a 9km curated walk along Sydney Harbour to share Aboriginal perspectives of place through artwork and installations, and will continue to work with Government agencies and landowners to deliver this new visitor experience in line with the NSW Visitor Economy Strategy and local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander strategies.

6.13	Work with the Australian Government's Department of Immigration and Border Protection, and the Ministry for the Arts, as well as local promoters, major venues and festivals in the City of Sydney local government area, to develop models for supporting the contribution of international visiting artists to the local community.	Investigated and Not Implemented	This action was investigated but exclusively within the influence and responsibilities of Federal and State Governments.
6.14	Support for the Australian pavilion at the International Architecture Biennale in Venice.	Completed	The City supported this initiative in 2016
6.15	Support for Kaldor Art Projects and the Biennale of Sydney to bring international visual artists to work in Sydney's public domain.	Completed (Ongoing)	The Legacy Art Partnership with Biennale of Sydney delivers on this action with public art works *The City of Forking Paths,* 2014 by Janet Cardiff and George Bures-Miller and in 2016, *Here, an Echo* by Agatha Gothe-Snape.
6.16	Fostering relationships with Chinese cultural organisations, and engaging with seven Chinese municipal government instrumentalities, in tandem with an increased investment in the focus event: Chinese New Year.	Completed	The event has evolved to Sydney Lunar Festival, including Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Thai communities and providing a broader perspective on the Asian region. The City uses this opportunity to engage with all relevant and related government agencies and corporate partnerships, consulates and community and cultural organisations.
6.17	Support four major festivals that feature international artists and provide opportunities for engagement and knowledge sharing with local artists.	Completed	Collaboration between international and local artists has been supported through the Festivals and Events grant program and the Cultural and Creative grants.
6.18	The City will monitor the success of its programs in providing opportunities for international artists and speakers to build local relationships leading to long-term partnerships and ideas sharing.	Completed (Ongoing)	This data is captured by the City's cultural evaluation framework, which is used to measure demand for City services and the success of cultural programs.
6.19	The City will monitor the success of its programs supporting growth in local cultural exports.	Investigated and Not Implemented	Funding trade and export initiatives is the responsibility of State and Federal governments.